

Appln. No. 09/696,095
Am dt. dated August 6, 2007
Reply to Office Action dated May 8, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The May 8, 2007 Office Action and the Examiner's comments have been carefully considered. In response, claims are cancelled and added, and remarks are set forth below in a sincere effort to place the present application in form for allowance. The amendments are supported by the application as originally filed. Therefore, no new matter is added.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for returning an initialed copy of the Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B dated March 29, 2007.

Applicant respectfully points out to the Examiner that Information Disclosure Statements were filed October 31, 2006 and December 4, 2006 in connection with this application. It is Applicant's understanding that initialed copies of the relevant portions of the Information Disclosure Statements filed October 31, 2006 and December 4, 2006 have not been returned to Applicant's attorney by the Examiner. The Examiner is respectfully requested to provide initialed copies of the

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relevant pages of the Information Disclosure Statements filed October 31, 2006 and December 4, 2006 with the next Patent Office communication to ensure that the references listed have been considered and made of record in this application.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

In the Office Action claims 57, 58, 60 and 61 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 005873073A (Bresnan et al.). Claims 59 and 62 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bresnan et al. in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 005737729A (Denman).

In response, claims 57-62 are cancelled and new claims 63-68, which are fully supported by the application as originally filed, are added. Claims 63 and 65 are independent claims and claims 64-65 and 67-68 are respectively dependent on claims 63 and 66.

The present claimed invention as defined by independent claim 63 is directed to a printing information distribution apparatus which is adapted to be operably connected to portable information terminals and printers through a communication network. The apparatus includes means for storing items of print

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information and means for transmitting to one of the portable information terminals through the communication network a printing reservation screen image which makes a user of the one of the portable information terminals input a reservation request for printing a selected item or items of the print information stored in the print information memory and identification of one of the portable information terminals. The apparatus also includes means for storing the reservation request and the identification of the one of the portable information terminals which are input by the user and transmitted through the communication network. The apparatus also includes distribution means which, in response to an input identification of a portable information terminal transmitted from one of the printers, reads a reservation request from the reservation request and identification storing means which corresponds to the input information, and reads an item or items of print information from the print information storing means which corresponds to the read reservation request, and transmits the read item or items of print information to the one of the printers.

Claim 66 corresponds to claim 63 but is in non means-plus-function format.

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Bresnan et al. (USP 5,873,083) teach a mail piece production system 5 including subsystems 10, 30, and 35. When an address is selected from an address list at the subsystem 10, a print job is transmitted from the subsystem 10 to the subsystem 35 including a document printer 36 for printing a mail piece based on document data and an envelope printer 38 for printing an address on an envelope. The mail piece and the envelope are supplied to a mailing machine 40 in which a finished mail piece is prepared.

Denman (USP 5,737,729) teaches an interactive kiosk terminal 10 including a monitor 18, a keyboard 22, a cash acceptor 26, a credit card terminal 28, a receipt printer 30, and a microprocessor 32. When a mail piece of choice is selected by the interactive kiosk terminal 10, the selected mail piece is transmitted to a central processing location 38.

Bresnan et al., Denman and all of the other references of record fail to disclose, teach or suggest, when taken either alone or in any combination, the present claimed invention as currently defined by claims 63 and 66. That is, all of the references of record fail to disclose, teach or suggest means for storing items of print information; means for transmitting to one of the portable information terminals through the communication

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network a printing reservation screen image which makes a user of the one of the portable information terminals input a reservation request for printing a selected item or items of the print information stored in the print information memory and identification of the one of the portable information terminals; means for storing the reservation request and the identification of the one of the portable information terminals which are input by the user and transmitted through the communication network; and distribution means, in response to an input identification of a portable information terminal transmitted from one of the printers, for reading a reservation request from the reservation request and identification storing means which corresponds to the input identification, reading an item or items of print information from the print information storing means which corresponds to the read reservation request, and transmitting the read item or items of print information to the one of the printers.

Dependent claims 64-65 and 67-68 are either directly or indirectly dependent on claims 63 and 66 and are patentable over the references of record in view of their dependence on claims 63 or 66 and because the references of record do not disclose, teach

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or suggest each of the limitations set forth in claims 64-65 and 67-68.

In view of all of the foregoing, claims 63-68 are in form for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

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Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

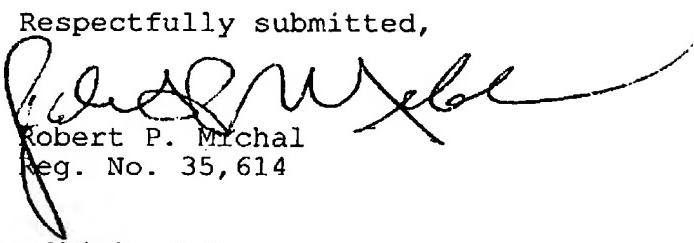
If the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to point out where there is support for a contrary view.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or

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recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,


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